

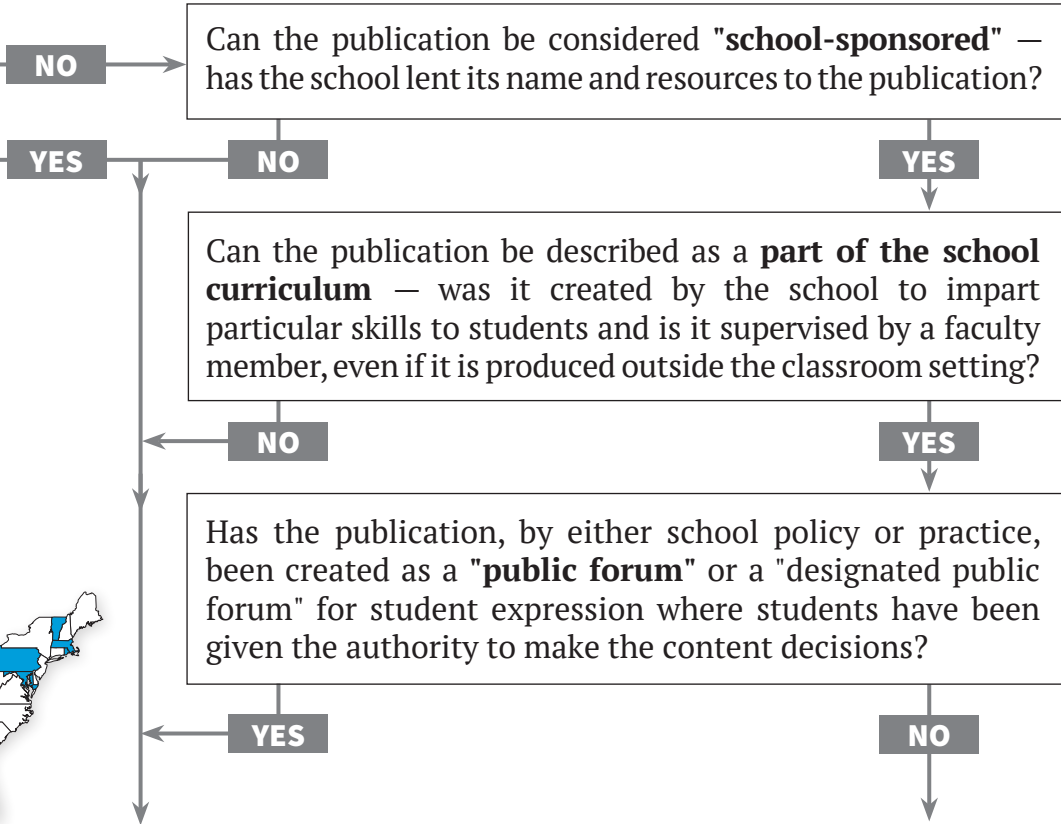
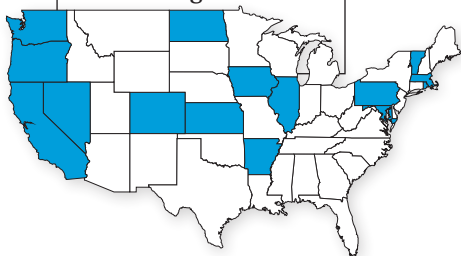
# First Amendment Rights of Public High School Student Journalists

An SPLC guide to determining if an act of censorship by school officials is legal

## BEGIN HERE

Do you live in ... ?

- Arkansas
- California
- Colorado
- District of Columbia
- Illinois
- Iowa
- Kansas
- Maryland
- Massachusetts
- Nevada
- North Dakota
- Oregon
- Pennsylvania
- Rhode Island
- Vermont
- Washington



## THE TINKER STANDARD

Can school officials show that their censorship is based on a reasonable expectation that the content would cause a **material and substantial disruption** of school activities or an invasion of the rights of others?



YES

NO

Censorship likely permitted

Censorship likely NOT permitted

## THE HAZELWOOD STANDARD

Can school officials show that they have a **valid educational purpose** for their censorship and that the censorship is not intended to silence a particular viewpoint that they disagree with or that is unpopular?

YES

NO

Censorship likely permitted

Censorship likely NOT permitted



For advice on what to do next, or if you have further questions about your legal rights as a student journalist or media adviser, contact the Student Press Law Center:

(202) 785-5450 • [www.splc.org](http://www.splc.org)